

football player while in high school. After graduation, Emmanuel committed to Mississippi State University (MSU), where he is a member of the MSU Bulldogs football team. Emmanuel Forbes, Jr., who is a defensive back, has made himself into one of the top players at his position. He has caught the eyes of NFL scouts and ESPN draft experts. Mel Kiper, who is the head coach of the MSU Bulldogs football team, has Emmanuel projected to be taken in the middle of the second round in the 2023 NFL Draft, if he were to declare to go pro after the football season.

Emmanuel is a semifinalist for both the Chuck Bednarik Award, which is awarded to the nation's top defensive player, and the Jim Thorpe Award, which is awarded to the nation's top defensive back. If Emmanuel makes the finalist list, he will travel to Orlando, FL, for the awards ceremony, which will be televised on ESPN on December 3, 2022.

Emmanuel led the Bulldogs with 5 interceptions through 10 games, which is tied for second-most in the nation and ranks second in MSU single-season history. Emmanuel has 13 career interceptions, which leads the nation since 2020, and is the most active among SEC players. Emmanuel set the MSU and Armed Forces Bowl record with a 90-yard interception return for a touchdown.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Emmanuel Forbes, Jr. for his dedication, passion for leadership, and desire to be an example for all.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. TOMMY STALNAKER

#### HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2022*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of my good friend, Chairman Tommy Stalnaker, who is retiring after 50 years of service to Houston County, Georgia.

Mr. Stalnaker began his public service in 1972 and worked in various local government positions for 38 years until he was elected as chairman of the Houston County Board of Commissioners in 2010. Mr. Stalnaker started serving as Houston County's Chief Elected Official the following year and served three consecutive terms as chairman for 12 years.

During his tenure, Mr. Stalnaker was a champion for developing Houston County into the thriving community it is today and supporting the mission at Robins Air Force Base. While in office, he served on the Governing Council of the Middle Georgia Regional Commission and the Central Georgia Joint Development Authority.

Mr. Stalnaker worked for and with 30 Houston County Commissioners during his extensive career and is proud to see Houston County in positive financial standing with no debt.

I am honored to have the privilege of representing outstanding Georgians and servant leaders like Chairman Stalnaker. I thank him for his many years of service to our community, and I wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING COUNTY COMMISSIONER OTIS RITTER FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2022*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Otis Ritter for nearly 10 years of service as Moore County Commissioner and a lifetime of public service to our community.

Prior to serving on the Moore County Board of Commission, Commissioner Ritter served in the Navy and worked as a volunteer fireman for the Robbins and High Falls rescue squads. He also served 20 years as the chairman of the county's Emergency Services Advisory Committee. After being appointed to the Board of Commissioners to replace Commissioner Craig Kennedy in 2013, Commissioner Ritter was elected to hold the District III seat in 2014 and 2018. Given his experience as a first responder, he now serves as a member of the Fire Commission which recently replaced the Emergency Services Advisory Committee. He also currently serves as a member of Local Emergency Planning Committee, the Nursing and Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee, and numerous other committees. Perhaps most impressively, Commissioner Ritter also previously served as vice chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Today, Commissioner Ritter is the longest serving member of the current Board of Commissioners. He will retire from his seat at the end of this year. Over the course of his career, he has extended the highest level of personal sacrifice in dedicating himself to the service of others. I know I speak for our entire community in thanking him for his hard work and wishing him well as he enters the next chapter of his life.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Commissioner Otis Ritter for his career of exemplary servitude to his community.

#### HONORING SAMUEL L. WASHINGTON

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Samuel "Sam" Washington. Sam has had a fascination for aviation since he was young and had his sights set on the skies.

Sam grew up on a farm northwest of Yazoo City, MS. After being educated in the Humphreys County School System in Belzoni, he attended Mississippi Valley State University for two years before finishing his degree in management at Delta State University in 1986. After college, he spent a brief tour with the U.S. Air Force. After he persevered and pursued education, this prepared him for his current job as Director of the Greenville Mid-Delta Airport. In 2003, Sam took a job as director of purchasing at DSU. While there, he took the opportunity of free tuition for employees to earn two master's degrees, one in business

and the other in commercial aviation. In 2010, he left to open his own consulting firm.

Sam became a management instructor in the aviation department at DSU and worked part-time with the Vicksburg Municipal Airport. After that, he took his present job at the Greenville Mid-Delta Airport in 2018.

The other person, other than his wife, Barbara, that he respects most, is his father, Clinton Washington, Jr. He is who Sam aspire to be as a man.

Sam is Pastor of Cornerstone Christian Worship Center in Cleveland, MS, where he not only preaches, but takes care of the property. That combined with home projects does not leave a lot of time for other activities. Although he doesn't get to do a lot of flying, that is his number one hobby.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sam Washington for his dedication to advocacy for airport economic improvements and his selfless service to the Greenville Mid Delta Airport and the Mississippi Delta Region.

#### HONORING DR. ERIKA HENDEL AS IOWAN OF THE WEEK

#### HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2022*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Doctor Erika Hendel as Iowan of the Week. Erika is the co-chair of the Iowa Queer Communities of Color Coalition, board member of the Des Moines Pride Center, and in their free time manages to work as a veterinarian. June is Pride Month, and the purpose of the commemorative month is to recognize the impact that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally. Erika has been a tireless advocate for the LGBTQ community and truly encapsulates the meaning of Pride Month.

Erika was a founding member and now sits as co-chair of The Iowa Queer Communities of Color Coalition (IQCC). The Iowa Queer Communities of Color's mission is to use an intersectional lens to address the inequity of services, lack of support and space, socioeconomic disparities, and institutional racism experienced by our communities through education, advocacy, intentional inclusivity, and organizing. Erika has always been involved in LGBTQ advocacy but knew that visibility is important. As Asian American. Erika has lived in Iowa for 5½ years, but it was a difficult transition coming from some of the other diverse places that they have lived. This led Erika to get even more involved in the community and become the co-chair of the IQCC. Erika found that it made the most sense of community with the diversity that they have experienced in the queer organizations in the city. Erika is looking to address the question of how to create a system of support. That is a goal that Erika is looking to work towards in Des Moines through continued advocacy.

Additionally, Erika is a board member of the Des Moines Pride Center, an organization dedicated to supporting lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals and their families

as well as our allies in the Greater Des Moines area. They offer a safe environment for community members to visit with a large library and free Wi-Fi. The community center also serves as a meeting place for other non-profit organizations with similar missions. It serves as a hub for information and socialization for the gender and sexual minorities in the community.

Erika is a shining example of tireless advocacy to make our community a better place and embodies what Pride Month is all about and what it means to be an Iowan. I will always fight in Congress to make Iowa a more inclusive and welcoming state right alongside Erika and the countless other advocates in our community. It is my pleasure to name Dr. Erika Hendel as Iowan of the Week.

HONORING CLERK OF COURT  
SUSAN HICKS FOR EXCEPTIONAL  
SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2022*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Moore County Clerk of Court Susan Hicks for her distinguished career in public service.

Clerk Hicks began her 38-year career as a public servant in Randolph County and began work with the Moore County Clerk of Court's office in 2006. She was later appointed Clerk of Court in 2009 and was elected to the position for the first time in 2010. She would go on to win re-election twice in 2014 and 2018. Over the course of her time in office, Clerk Hicks' leadership succeeded in upholding the Moore County Clerk's Office's historic status as one of the most well-run and effective Clerk's Offices in North Carolina. She oversaw the modernization of office processes to ensure that it will maintain the capacity to keep up with a growing population in Moore County and acclimate to future technological advancements or unforeseen challenges.

Clerk Hicks will retire from her position at the end of the year. Through her expertise and committed leadership, she stands as an example that all in public service should strive to emulate. I know I speak the rest of our community as I express my gratitude for her hard work and wish her well as she enters the next chapter in her life.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Clerk of Court Susan Hicks for her career of exemplary servitude to her community.

HONORING LA'CURTIS JAMON  
POWELL

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, La'Curtis Jamon Powell.

La'Curtis Jamon Powell was born and raised in Jackson, MS, on January 28, 1997, to the parents of Dorothea Powell and David

White. Powell graduated from Forest Hill High School in 2015, where he participated in various organizations such as Track, Cross Country, DECA, and Student Council. Upon graduating from Forest Hill, Powell received Junior Class Favorite, Mr. Senior, and Most Spirited Senior. After high school Powell immediately enrolled at Thee Jackson State University, where he received a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice and minor in Military Science. Throughout his tenure at Jackson State University, he has been active in many student organizations.

Through his on-campus involvement, Powell was able to cultivate his natural born leadership skills. One of his biggest accomplishments was chartering the Young Democrats freshman year. His involvement in the process to gain active status for the organization led to Powell receiving an internship with the Mississippi Democratic House Party and later becoming a Campaign Coordinator for then-presidential candidate Hillary Clinton at Jackson State University.

Furthermore, Powell made great strides to improve the well-being of each student at Jackson State on and off campus. He even hosted free ACT workshops for Jackson Public School students. Powell is also Spring 2017 initiate of the Delta Phi chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Powell also served as the 73rd Student Government Association President, while simultaneously serving as the Vice president for the Student Body President Council under The Institution of Higher Learning and The Legal Affairs Director for The National Consortium of all HBCUs Student Government Association Presidents.

Now in his career, Powell works as an American Airlines Flight Attendant, based in Charlotte, NC. He is also a commissioned officer in the United States Army as 1LT Powell. Throughout his military career, 1LT Powell served as the Battalion S-1 OIC and HHC Company Commander for the 365th HHC Combat Sustainment Support Battalion located in Jackson, MS, 2019–2021.

1LT LaCurtis Powell currently lives in Atlanta, GA, where he is currently stationed at Fort Gillem as 3rd Medical Command (Deployment Support) and is the Aide de Camp to Brigadier General Peder Swanson, while simultaneously serving at the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) Program Manager for the entire division. As the IRT Program Manager, 1LT Powell provides free medical services such as Dental, Behavioral Health, Veterinary, Family Practices, and Optometry to rural areas and low incomes citizens. Powell is also seeking his Masters in Student Affairs at The University of Arkansas Tech, while being a national active member in his fraternity and Alma Mater Thee Jackson State University.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing La'Curtis Jamon Powell for his passion for leadership and service to the United States of America.

FAREWELL TO SERGEANT MAJOR  
JEREMY D. BARTON

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2022*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a superb Soldier and

Army legislative liaison for his tireless commitment to the United States Army, serving our Nation for 31 years, concluding in the Army Legislative Liaison Office. As Sergeant Major Jeremy D. Barton retires from the United States Army, I believe it is fitting to recognize his service and dedication to fostering the relationship between the United States Army and this Chamber.

Sergeant Major Barton's commitment to service enabled him to excel in numerous leadership positions throughout his Army career. Jeremy began his career by enlisting in the U.S. Army in 1992 as a Field Artilleryman. Throughout his amazing career, he led Soldiers at every level from squad leader through battalion command sergeant major, always placing the needs of his Soldiers and their families first. He also completed numerous demanding Army schools, to include Ranger School, Jumpmaster School, and the Pathfinder Course. He distinguished himself as a tactical and technical expert, serving in the most demanding assignments in the Army, to include multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan and remote locations in Alaska.

Jeremy's relentless commitment to the Army proved invaluable in providing support to the House of Representatives and our constituents. As both a Defense Fellow in my office and an Army Legislative Liaison, he spent countless hours ensuring our Members were educated on Army combat systems, modernization programs and policy initiatives. He also led multiple Congressional Delegations to various locations around the globe. Jeremy has become a trusted adviser and friend to many of us, distinguishing himself by continuously going above and beyond the call of duty to serve the needs of Congress.

This Chamber will feel Sergeant Major Barton's absence. I join many past and present Members of Congress in my gratitude and appreciation to Jeremy for his outstanding leadership and unwavering support. This Nation is grateful for his commitment and the personal sacrifices he has made during his time in the Army Legislative Liaison Office and United States Army.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the United States of America, I commend Sergeant Major Jeremy Barton and his family for their dedicated support to our Army, our Soldiers and this Nation. I congratulate him on an extremely successful career, his dedication to service, and wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF JOAN ROBINSON  
CHEEKS

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 2, 2022*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, today I want to celebrate the life of Joan Robinson Cheeks, a long-time resident of Detroit, as we mourn her loss.

Joan had a long career serving the public in the City of Detroit's Housing Department. Joan proudly stood up for the values she felt strongly about. It was no surprise that upon retirement, Joan threw herself wholeheartedly into work with local organizations, including the Michigan Democratic Party, whose work focused on issues like voter protection. Joan served as a precinct delegate for many years.